

M S A



MONTHLY
BULLETIN

100 YEARS

JULY 87

Architecture, Space, Time and Money



Dennis Haugen, AIA

Architecture in Flint reflects the needs, economics and priorities of our society over time in the same way it did in Rome, Athens, Egypt or Michigan one hundred years ago when the Michigan Society of Architects began.

The Whaley House was a residence then on a street that was once home to banking officials and automotive leaders like the Chryslers, Motts, Durants, Buicks and Bishops. It is now an architectural symbol of the era when the automobile industry was developing. It was this environment that gave birth to the General Motors Corporation. It happened in the dining room of one of the homes on Kearsley Street which was located where the I-475 Freeway is today. The room is preserved in the Sloan Museum at the Cultural Center.

Billy Durant, a key individual in the creation of General Motors, had an early office on Water Street next to his factories and just across the Flint River from the new Hyatt Regency. Durant's early offices were recently restored under the direction of S.S.O.E. The building is used by the Flint Area Chamber of Commerce for offices and by the public.

Under Durant's direction on part of his farm, the Buick Division grew

from the heart of downtown Flint to the northeast where the corporate headquarters is today. Buick is one of the largest industrial complexes in the world. It has over 12,500,000 square feet of building and employs approximately 13,500 people. This area also includes many support plants and warehouses for the new Buick City Automotive Assembly Operations, some in buildings dating back to the 1920's. The major structures of this complex were designed by Albert Kahn and completed in 1946 after World War II. Recent renovations and additions were designed by S.S.O.E. and Grainger Associates, Architects and Engineers of Flint.

Durant also retained Kahn's firm to design the large G.M. Fisher Body plant at about the same time they were designing the G.M. headquarters in Detroit. It is the location of the famous Flint sit-down strike of 1937 that led to the formation of the UAW. Thus the environment which gave birth to General Motors, twenty-five years later, also spawned the UAW.

As the automotive industry grew

so did its economic, physical and cultural influence. The city expanded because of the need for new industrial facilities, offices, and homes for its production employees, engineers, and managers. Temporary tar paper shacks for workers sprang up as a result of the rapid creation of jobs. In the early 1920's General Motors constructed over 1,200 new homes for their employees in the Flint Civic Park area. Today, many of these homes with their slate roofs, have been restored under the guidance of Ron Campbell, AIA, and the Flint architectural firm of Tomblinson, Harburn and Yurk.

Automobile and truck sales have a significant effect on Flint and Genesee County's economic environment and on people's attitudes. Their decisions to invest in new or renovated old buildings are related to the financial health and stance of GM and its employees. The demands for architectural designs and services also fluctuate with the fortunes of the auto industry.

(Continued on page 3)



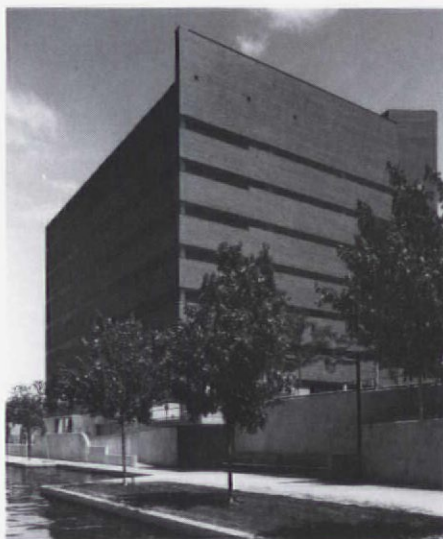
Architecture, Space, Time and Money *(Continued)*

In the late 1970's General Motors directly employed over 73,000 people or over one third the jobs in Genesee County. Today they employ about 60,000 people but 10,000 of these jobs are subject to elimination, not to mention the potential loss of all the other support jobs related to the automotive industry. The Flint economy nationally has been rated from the 2nd to 7th based on disposable income. Retail sales and building construction in the area of Genesee Valley Shopping Center are said to be one to the highest in the country. All of this will change in the near future if current information is correct.

First generation leaders and managers of the companies that formed G.M. chose Flint because of its relationship to Detroit, some existing small industries and the availability of natural resources. They made their decisions with the help of a small group of talented and successful leaders and engineers. Their influence within G.M. was strong and they used their power to get things done in Flint. The tremendous financial benefits that accrued to the original stockholders of General Motors and their families such as the Motts also helped to shape the cultural life of the city.

In the early fifties these leaders, with some encouragement from the local paper, conceived the concept of the Cultural Center. The aerial photo shows that development as it proceeds east on Kearsley Street. The Flint Institute of Music, Sloan Museum, Durant Plaza, Whiting Auditorium — home of the Star Theatre, Flint Public Library, Art Institute, Longway Planetarium, Bower Theatre, the Mott estate and Mott Community College are all located in this area. The designers of these structures were Flint and Detroit firms. Construction continued through the early seventies. This complex is unique for an area of 450,000 people. It springs from the same concentrated leadership that created the huge specialized automotive industrial complexes around Flint. The product here is culture and education not cars.

(Continued on page 4)



*State Office Building
Architect: Neumann/Greager Assoc.
River Walkway Landscape Architect:
L. Halprin Associates
Photo: Pat Adams*



*Doyle River Village Apartments
Architect: Tomblinson, Harburn & Assoc.
Photo: Pat Adams*



*Doyle Ryder Community Elementary School
Architect: Thomas Hodng, Architects Inc.
Photo: Pat Adams*



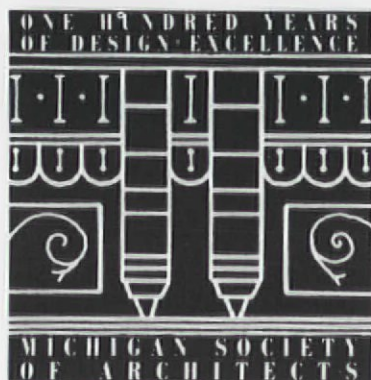
*Buick City Automobile Assembly Plant Architect: Albert Kahn
Demolition & Refurbishment: SSOE Architects
Gate House Addition: Grainger Associates Photo: Pat Adams*

Architecture, Space . . . (Continued)

In the late sixties and early seventies, the city unsuccessfully tried to have Hudson's develop a downtown shopping center. This area north to the Flint River was developed as a waterfront park and walkway that was designed by L. Halpren and Associates. Today, the River Front Walkway is the setting for the State of Michigan Office Building, Waterstreet Pavilion, Hyatt Regency, University of Michigan, North Bank Center Office and Retail Center, and the closed Auto World Complex.

The area north of Auto world was totally redeveloped and now contains a restaurant, offices, shops, low and high rise housing and the restored Doyle Ryder School, the oldest newest school in the Flint Community education system.

In the early 1980's, the forty year old Buick Car Assembly Facility was upgraded into what is known as Buick City. It is a complete raw material to automotive assembly complex with on-time-delivery, robots, electronic computer interfacing and the extensive use of automation. The recycled buildings, additions and 85 receiving docks provide modern state-of-the-art auto assembly in an older multi-storied structure. Many architects and engineers who contributed to this project are members of the Michigan Society of Architects. I have worked with some of them for almost twenty years. They are involved in the Society as Flint architects have been for the last one hundred years.



Sneak Preview — MSA Convention

MSA Convention gets better and better every year. Seventy-two years ago, Michigan architects met in their first convention at the Alumni Memorial Hall at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. The date was February 5, 1915. The first order of business was a resolution to endorse a bill calling for the registration of architects . . . "we agree to do all in our power to insure its passage. The meeting then adjourned and the members and their guests retired to Joe Parkers for dinner.

Professor Emil Lorch was the toastmaster and the speakers were Professor Colley, Mr. Arnold and Mr. VanLuzen. The next day members visited Hill Auditorium where they were entertained by Professor Stanley with a short organ recital. A tour of the drafting room and the architectural department followed.

The organist hasn't been selected but a lot of other events are lined up and ready to go. The Host Chapter Party will be at the Henry Ford Museum at Greenfield Village. Roy Salde and the McCoys from Cranbrook are committed. Susanna Torre, chief designer and partner-in-charge at Wank/Adams/Slavin Associates of New York City, will be there. She is an architect of international renown, published in "Record" and "PA". She has a special approach to design — an abstractness, that is being hailed by those within and without the profession.

"The Last 100 Years" in fashion and design will be reviewed in a presentation by Kingsbury Marzolf, AIA of U of M. Design, on land and sea, will be examined. Bill Johnson, Michigan's most famous landscape architect, will be there and the naval architect for Stars & Stripes is a strong maybe. There will be a session on industrial design, one on the IDP Program and another to explain the ramifications of all the new AIA documents.

The Detroit Institute of Arts is prepared for the Honor Awards Banquet and the Beaubien House just might be done in time for a pre-

banquet reception.

Dennis King and the Convention Committee are working hard and still have a lot of surprises in the works. The next Bulletin will feature "The Michigan Five."

Associate Director's Report

David Aten, Associate

The results are in from the recent survey of associate members. The rate of return was about 25% of those sent out to each chapter. The results did not hold a lot of surprises, for instance:

- 80% felt that AIA membership was beneficial
- 30% said associate membership was not encouraged
- 73% say that their chapter director does not report to them on a regular basis
- 62% felt an associate director on the national board was not required
- 35% have never been to an MSA convention even though their employers encourage attendance and most pay for their time spent at conventions
- 77% understand the IDP program even though most do not like it and only about half of the employers participate.

The full results of the survey will be sent to each chapter president and associate director.

The 1987 MSA Convention is not until October, but it is not too early to be thinking of running for the office of MSA Associate Director. Anyone who thinks they might be interested in the position can feel free to call me, 616-774-2313, for more information about what is involved.

One more thing — Get out those drawings and enter the 1987 Drafting Competition. The entry deadline is July 20th. You could be seeing your name written up in the October issue of the "Bulletin" and be \$100 richer.

Blockbuster Bulletin Planned

One hundred years of architectural history and tradition will come together in October at the 72nd Annual MSA Convention and the "Bulletin" will chronicle it all, according to Tim Casai, AIA, who chairs the Publication Committee. "We are planning for at least thirty-two pages for the Convention Number, more if the ads come in like I think they will. We are hoping that 100 years from now the Bulletin will be the Who's Who In Architecture for 1987," he added. "I would like to see ads with snappy graphics, a photograph of the firm's best building or pictures of their personnel. We want the advertisements to portray the era," he went on.

To encourage broad participation, special advertising rates have been established for the October issue:

Full Page	\$500.00
Half Page	300.00
Third Page	250.00
Quarter Page	200.00
Sponsor Lines	100.00

Advertising copy and art must be camera ready, halftone, 133 line screen and in the hands of "Bulletin" staff by August 15th to qualify for the special rates. Call MSA Headquarters for specifics.

The Committee is seeing suggestions or comments about this Commemorative Edition. Call Tim Casai at TMP, 338-4561.

New Contract Documents

Twelve AIA Contract Documents (A101, A201, A107, A111, A117, A401, A511, A701, B141, B151, C141, and C142) have been revised and reprinted. All but A511 are in good supply and available from MSA Headquarters. The new documents replace their old counterparts.

A new document synopsis will be published. Members who have the "Handbook of Professional Practice" and are members of the AIA Subscriber Service should contact AIA in Washington for replacement proce-

dures. Volume One of the Handbook will be expanded to two volumes and will be available by early 1988.

The revised documents have legal implications. National AIA has planned a number of seminars to explain the changes. There is one scheduled in the Detroit Area on JULY 29. The cost is \$235 for the first person from a firm and \$95 for each additional person attending. Call Brenda Henderson at AIA in Washington for location and details (202-626-7300). A program is also scheduled during the October MSA Convention.

Official Notice

In accordance with the By-Laws of the Michigan Society of Architects (Article 13, section 1) the following revision to Article 2, Section 7 **Honorary Member**, paragraph c is proposed and will be voted upon by the General Membership at the Business Meeting of the Society scheduled for August 7, 1987 at 10:00 a.m., Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, MI: (NOTE: New language is indicated in bold.)

c. Election. At any meeting of the Board held not less than 30 days after the deadline for submission of nominations, as established by the Board, the Board may elect a person (or persons) to Honorary Membership by a concurring vote of not less than 2/3 of the total membership of the Board. All nominations to honorary membership shall be confidential until the nominee is elected and accepts the honor.

Handbook Again

Continuing a tradition that began in 1928, the Michigan Society of Architects has once again published "The Handbook For the Construction Industry." The first Handbook produced a lot of sweaty palms and required a bank loan of \$5,000. A few sleepless nights, the computer and several hundred person hours put the 1987 edition together. Ed Vermurlen,

AIA, who chaired the Handbook Committee convinced Meijer Inc. to print the pages at cost and Mary Margaret Munski, AIA persuaded Steelcase to haul all the paper to Detroit for assembly.

A ring binder gives the Handbook a new look and it will make it easier to update and revise the contents. It also has an expanded section on Michigan Architectural Firms that is moving closer to becoming a consumer's guide.

The books were shipped in May to all MSA members, government officials and the major newspapers in the state. Those who have not received their copies should contact MSA headquarters. Additional copies can be purchased for \$75.

Firm News

River Place Holdings Inc. has purchased a majority ownership in Hellmuth, Obata and Kassabaum Inc. — Detroit and will conduct business at the International Partnership Group, Inc. Last year, River Place, a Stroh family holding company, joined with HOK to acquire O. Germany, Inc. David Mouatt will continue as one of the partners and the president of the new group.

The Argos Group, a subsidiary of Barton-Malow Company, has announced that the operations of Sixty-Eight/52 Associates, a New York-based management consulting firm, have been assumed and will be integrated into the Southfield facilities services firm. Martin C.P. McElroy, founder and president of the consulting firm, comes to Argos as director of consulting services. He is a former Detroit area resident who studied architecture at U of M, has a degree in communications psychology from Wayne State and worked for TMP.

Continental Design, Inc. has a new address according to Howard Overbeek, AIA. The firm is located at 8120 Moorsbridge, Portage, MI 49002.

(Continued on page 6)

Firm News (Continued)

Blount Engineers, Inc. has been cited by the Engineering Society of Detroit for a 1987 Engineering Recognition Award for the Reatta Craft Center which will produce Buick's luxury sports car.

The Architectural Group in Grand Rapids has added Gerrit Huitsing, AIA as an associate architect.

Louis G. Redstone Associates celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the firm at an outdoor champagne reception and dedication of "Noah and the Bird", a copper sculpture by Samuel Cashwan that has been placed on its grounds. The associates, friends and family of Mr. Redstone have honored him by collecting over \$11,000 to establish an endowed scholarship in his name at the University of Michigan. The tax-deductible contributions are still being accepted. Make checks payable to the University of Michigan/Louis G. Redstone Scholarship.

Merritt & McCallum Architects, P.C. announced that Ronald A. Cieslak, AIA has joined the firm in the position of Firm Principal. His responsibilities will be in the areas of design and marketing.

Want Ads

Louisiana Architect with 20 years of experience wishes to relocate due to poor economic conditions. Call 504-872-6379.

Entry Level Washington State University graduate with a degree in Architecture. Contact: Marcel Desranleau, D 301 Steptoe Village, Pullman, WA 99163, phone 509-332-7305.

Entry Level Texas Tech University graduate with 5 year degree. Contact: Brian Wiggins, 625 Corinne Blvd. Canton, MI 48187.

Entry Level Drafter graduate of Grambling State University in Drafting Technology. Contact: Anthony Davis, 9336 Carten, Detroit, MI 48214, phone 313-824-2015.

Obituaries

David R. Byrd, AIA died recently after a prolonged illness. He was born in Washington, D.C. in 1921 and came to Michigan in 1968. He was graduated from Hampton Institute University and he earned a Master's Degree from U of M.

He was elected to the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners, directed the Community Development Department and was an instructor at Washtenaw Community College.

He was president of the Huron Valley Chapter/AIA in 1973-74. That year, the Black Economic Development League, Washtenaw Community College and the AIA Chapter joined together to renovate two buildings in Ann Arbor. One for use as a community development center where low-income property owners could obtain advice from AIA members and the other as headquarters for the church funded Black Economic Development League.

He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, the Alpha Phi Alpha, and the National Technical Association. He is survived by his wife, Letitia Johnson Byrd.

Louis Menk, FAIA died on June 12, 1987. He was 78. He was vice president and treasurer of Albert Kahn Associates until his retirement in 1975. He had been with the firm for 33

years. Prior to coming to Detroit, he was Assistant Professor of Architecture and Assistant to the Dean at New York University, his alma mater. He was founder and past president of the NYU Alumni of Metro Detroit and had a seat on its board of governors when he died.

He was a past director of the Detroit Chapter, AIA, past treasurer and director of the MSA, a founding member of the Michigan Association of the Professions and a member of the Engineering Society of Detroit Education Council.

In 1971, he received the MSA Gold Medal which was two years after his election to the College of Fellows of the AIA.

He was a recognized authority on the preparation and administration of construction contracts. His writings on the subject have been published in a number of professional journals including "Progressive Architecture."

He was a recognized authority on the preparation and administration of construction contracts. His writings on the subject have been published in a number of professional journals including "Progressive Architecture."

He is survived by his wife, Olga; two daughters Mrs. Doris Lunskey and France, two grandchildren; and two sisters.

Grapevine

Ted Dziurman, P.E. is the National Director for the Michigan Society of Professional Engineers and **Stanley Stynes, P.E.** was installed as President. Another engineer, **Christo-**

pher Kittides, P.E. was just elected Chair of the Michigan State Board of Professional Engineers. While we are on the subject of Engineers, it is nice to know that their monthly magazine "Detroit Engineer" will feature the

(Continued on page 7)

Building Arts Softball League Standings

As of May 28, 1987

Southfield/Bloomfield Hills/Livonia League

League Representative: Mark Karaba — Neumann/
Smith Associates (352-8310)

Team	W/L	Standing
Wah Yee Associates	3-0	1.000
TMP Associates	2-1	.667
Nudell/Ryan & Associates	1-1	.500
Redstone Associates	1-1	.500
R.E. Dailey	1-2	.333
Neumann & Smith Associates	1-2	.333
Lefkofsky, Bobish & Associates	0-2	.000

Birmingham/Troy League

League Representative: David Andruccioli — Catallo
Associates (649-8800)

Team	W/L	Standing
Dunaj Schlitt & Associates	3-0	1.000
Hoyem-Basso Associates	2-0	1.000
DesRosiers & Associates	2-1	.667
Smith & Schurman/Wolf	2-1	.667
Anthony S. Brown	1-2	.333
Catallo Associates	0-2	.000
Luckenbach & Zeigelman	0-2	.000
Progressive Associates	0-2	.000

Detroit League

League Representative: Lori Pyka — William Kessler &
Associates (963-5906)

Team	W/L	Standing
William Kessler & Associates	2-0	1.000
McCafferty & Associates	3-0	1.000
Schervish, Vogel, Merz	2-1	.667
Ford & Earl/EAM Engineers	1-1	.500
Harley Ellington Pierce Yee	1-1	.500
Smith, Hinchman & Grylls	1-2	.333
Blount Engineers	0-2	.000
Rossetti & Associates	0-3	.000

League Commissioners

Tom O'Brien — Wah Yee Associates (353-3990)

Tim Zawodny — Luckenbach & Zeigelman
(644-0600)

Mike Glicker — Harley Ellington Pierce Yee Assoc.
(354-0300)

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see you at the msa convention in Oct. - Booth 44

Grapevine (Continued)

Architect's Centennial in their October issue. Thanks folks . . . Philip (with one 'L') Meathe, FAIA received an Honorary Doctor of Architecture Degree from Lawrence Institute of Technology. He was also featured in an article in the Grosse Pointe News. Don't tell Olaf that the above was in the "Bulletin." She would have writ-

ten it in invisible ink . . . Ronald E. Mayotte, AIA designed a house for the 1987 Detroit Symphony Designers' Showcase. Walter Herz did the interiors and the "Free Press" did the pictures on May 30th . . . Jim Perkins of Lansing designed the official Michigan Sesquicentennial Poster for "The Friends of the Capitol", a non-profit organization founded and dedicated to the restoration and preservation of the historic Michigan State

Capitol Building. The poster received the "Addy Award" as the most outstanding work in advertising graphic produced this year in Michigan. Only 1,500 were made, complements of Wm. Jowett and Associates, and MSA has one thanks to Jim. The posters are available for \$15 (signed by the Governor and artist for \$150) from the Friends of the Capitol, Capitol Building, Lansing.



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CALENDAR

October 4, 1987

DC-AIA/ASID HOUSE TOUR
BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD
AREA

Tickets: \$12.00 for seven homes

JULY

- 9 **Golf Outing/Pine Knob
AELC Meeting**
- 15 **MSA Vice Presidents Meet-
ing** 10:00 a.m. MSU Univer-
sity Club/East Lansing
- 15 **Publications Committee
Meeting** 2:30 p.m. SH&G
- 16 **MSA ExCom Committee
Meeting** 12:00 Holiday Inn
West/Ann Arbor
- 16 **Midsummer Conference
Committee Meeting Fudge-
time Players Rehearsal** 5:00
p.m. Fry Residence/Ann
Arbor
- 21 **Detroit Chapter/AIA Board
Meeting** 8:00 a.m. SH&G
- 22-25 **Ann Arbor Art Fair, Huron
Valley Chapter/AIA has a
booth**
- 25 **BYC Port Huron to
Mackinac Race**

- 29 **Day Long Document Sem-
inar** to explain the recent
changes in AIA Documents.
The cost is \$235 for the first
person from a firm and \$95
for each addition person
attending. Call Brenda Hen-
derson at AIA in Washing-
ton for location and details
(202-626-7300).

AUGUST

- 6-8 **Midsummer Conference,
Mackinac Island**
- 18 **Detroit Chapter/AIA Board
Meeting** 8:00 a.m. TMP

SEPTEMBER

- 10-11 **Third Annual — Doing Bus-
iness in China, University
of Wisconsin-Madison call**
800-262-6243.
- 12 **"In the Realm of Ideas"
Taliesin Seminar at Spring
Green, Wisconsin. Contact
Richard Carney at 608-588-
2511. The fee is \$150 per
person.**
- 18 **Allied Arts Festival at the
Cranbrook Academy of Art
Museum. Architect Cesar
Pelli of New Haven, Connec-
ticut is the keynote speaker.**

OCTOBER

- 21-22 **72nd Annual MSA Conven-
tion, Fairlane Manor in
Dearborn.**

Cover Photo:

*Whaley House
Restoration Architect: Tomblinson &
Harburn & Assoc.
Photo: Pat Adams*

MSA BULLETIN

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